

WASHINGTON GOSSIP

Summer Resorts Offered Uncle Sam



WASHINGTON.—If Uncle Sam wanted to go into the summer resort business, now would be his golden opportunity. He has scores of chances to acquire for a song hotel and resort property of great scenic beauty, though possibly of little commercial value, according to the agents doing the work. Whether Uncle Sam will "bite" will depend upon the national forestry commission.

The efforts to sell are being made under the Weeks' Forestry law, otherwise known as the Appalachian Forest Reserve act. Last spring, when advertisements were issued for land to be purchased with the \$11,000,000 appropriated by that law, the rush began. It has continued since then until nearly every owner of a "busted," down-at-the-heel summer resort in the mountain sections of the southeastern states and New England has tried to unload upon the government. The offers are still coming in.

Already over 2,000,000 acres have been offered for sale to the government. All of this is not summer resort property, but a considerable proportion of it is. The resort property is not offered for the buildings on it, but for the beautiful "park" about them, which are always heavily timbered and suitable for forestry purposes, according to the promoters. If all the land offered were to be bought

it would probably cost Uncle Sam \$100,000,000 instead of \$11,000,000.

One of the leading summer resort "forest reservations" which the government has been asked to buy is the Natural Bridge in Virginia, for which something like a quarter of a million is wanted. Accompanying the offer was a beautiful painting of the bridge, which was great for scenic beauty, but did not seem to be much for timber. No charge was made for the picture, it was explained. The promoter of this property did not admit it, but it is well known that the Natural Bridge died a natural death in recent years.

A large number of other resort and hotel properties in the White Mountains and the much advertised "Land of the Sky," or "Sapphire Country," of Carolina are being offered to the government at ridiculous prices—whether ridiculously high or ridiculously low will be for the forestry commission to say. Officials of the forest service have mapped out certain areas within which it is thought desirable to buy land for the protection of forests and the conservation of stream flow. Some of these areas include summer resorts; but that does not mean that the forest service wants those resorts purchased.

Certain big White Mountain hotels want the government to buy whole mountains so that the trees thereon will be preserved for the benefit of their guests. Lands are being pressed upon the government for \$50 to \$100 an acre, but few if any of these will be bought. Most of the purchases which the forestry commission will authorize will probably be cut-over and waste lands which can be obtained for a few dollars an acre.

To Auction Off Decrepit Warships

THE contemplated sale by the United States government of 43 warships classed as obsolete in the latest navy report will open an extensive field to the battleship broker. The lot will include battleships, armored and protected cruisers, monitors and gunboats. Rapid development in the building of dreadnoughts has caused battleships and other war craft which ten years ago were considered formidable, to fall behind present requirements. Consequently the government plans to get rid of them, either by breaking them up and selling them as junk, or disposing of them to South American republics.

Among the battleships classed as obsolete are the Kearsarge, Kentucky, Alabama, Maine, Massachusetts, Indiana, Ohio, Oregon, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin. It cost to build them \$64,405,225. When the Kearsarge and the Kentucky were put in commission several years ago they were among the finest battleships afloat. Their batteries of seven-inch guns were impressive, but now, compared with ships like the Delaware, the Michigan, the Florida, they seem insignificant.

The cruisers doomed to the scrap heap are the Brooklyn, New York, St. Louis, Charleston and Milwaukee. The Brooklyn was Admiral Schley's flag-



ship at the battle of Santiago. The total cost of these is \$20,355,275. The unarmored cruisers that were serviceable in the Spanish war, but in a modern sea battle couldn't approach the enemy within ten miles or more, are the Olympia, Dewey's flagship at the battle of Manila bay; the Raleigh, Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati, Boston, Marblehead, Atlanta, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Montgomery, Minneapolis, and Columbia. Total cost, \$25,965,782.

Warship brokers in this country naturally will look to South America as the most likely field for business. Argentina and Brazil are setting the pace for dreadnoughts, and the smaller republics, which might wish to follow their example, may find it cheaper and more economical to buy battleships of the type of the Kentucky and the Kearsarge. Such of the smaller republics as wish to increase the strength of their navies, being unable to order dreadnoughts, probably will try to make a bargain with Uncle Sam or else employ the battleship broker.

This Country Full of Foreign Spies



SPIES, according to reports in Washington, are still at work finding out for the nations which they represent the secrets of this country's defense. Not satisfied with their "military attaches"—sometimes called the title of a spy not in disguise—these nations, directly or indirectly, have been working all the time throughout the world collecting information. This information is of every sort: economic, geographical, commercial, but especially military. It is the first duty of these men to report all details they can gather of the fortifications in the country to which they are assigned. All this information is eventually filed in the vaults of the general staff, and on it, to a large degree, depends the preparedness of the country for war.

In New York itself there are doubtless many spies besides the consuls. Some years ago a young lieutenant in a foreign army spent his vacation on this side of the Atlantic, admittedly reporting to his government the various activities of the United States, especially in some of their island protectorates. He returned to his home country, and nothing more was heard of him for several years.

One day toward the end of 1910 a man who had met this officer on his first visit was much surprised to meet him again on a ferryboat at New York city. The officer was dressed in civilian clothes and either did not recognize his former acquaintance or pretended not to recognize him. When addressed, however, he readily acknowledged his identity. He said he was in this country permanently and was working in a factory on Staten Island. This factory was within half an hour's walk of some of the most important fortifications on the Atlantic seaboard.

The fact was enough to make the acquaintance suspicious. Here was a man who had been an officer in a foreign army, who had at one time admittedly represented his country on an inspection tour, and who suddenly turned up six years after in civilian clothes and said that he was working regularly in a factory close to a great fortress.

Some time later the acquaintance called up the factory to see if the man was still there. He was not, but had left shortly after the interview on the ferryboat.

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Draughtsmen Separated From Pay-Roll

EIGHTY draughtsmen, whose annual salaries aggregate a quarter of a million dollars, were dispensed with at the end of last month. This force has been busy for years making individual plans for the government's public buildings throughout the land.

The treasury officials, in taking stock of cash on hand, found that they had only money enough to pay these draughtsmen. Therefore they asked congress for \$200,000 to keep them on the payroll for the next nine months, completing the fiscal year.

But there was nothing extra coming from congress to meet such a situation and it was suggested that as the government has over six hundred draughtsmen for all kinds of public buildings the draughtsmen could be dispensed with and new buildings authorized built upon plans already made use of.

Of course without the necessary money the treasury officials had to let the draughtsmen go. The old practice of carrying clerks when there was no money to pay them with and having congress make up the deficit when



convenient does not appeal to the officials in the departments any longer. Several years ago a law was passed making it an offense for an official to create a deficit or to use money appropriated for one specific purpose for another purpose for which the regular appropriation had become exhausted.

Not only will there be a saving of \$250,000 for the present fiscal year, but there will also go on indefinitely a saving of a quarter of a million dollars each year, for the treasury officials have let the draughtsmen go for good.

There are now in the United States, erected and in use, 682 public buildings, costing from \$25,000 to \$8,000,000 each, the last named figure being the cost of the New York custom house.

WELL IN THE DESERT

New Plants Are Centrifugal Pumps Run by Steam.

Regions Which Had Never Been Forced by Drought to Seek Water and Having Found It They Will Now Use Irrigation.

Sinking wells into water-bearing strata to secure domestic and irrigation supplies is now being resorted to as never before. New and broader conceptions of the relations of subterranean water to irrigation have recently prevailed. Individual irrigation undertakings have been recently established very largely upon wells and pumps or upon flowing wells, wherever they can be had. During the last three years there have been perhaps ten times as many pumping outfits set up for irrigation as had been employed during the whole earlier irrigation of this state.

Large irrigation companies have sunk groups of wells and pumped from them into their distributing ditches and flumes. Individual irrigators have sunk wells and bought pumping plants when the ditch water failed and have now learned the superiority of home supply, to be drawn up just when it can be used to best advantage, and often to be had for much less than the rates of the ditch companies. Large regions which had never secured irrigation systems have been forced by drought to seek water and having found it below ground in ample quantities they will not fail in the future to use irrigation as a supplement to the rainfall.

Many of these plants are centrifugal pumps run by steam. These are the larger plants, fifteen to forty horsepower and in some instances more, and the size of the pumps ranges from four to twelve inches. Most of the smaller pumps are run by gasoline, although several use crude oil, and many of them are also centrifugal. Some of these are deep-well pumps and they are very satisfactory in raising water from a greater depth than 100 feet. From 100 to 300 feet they work admirably. The cost of pumping differs materially with the different kinds of power, sizes of pumps and depth of wells. Figuring from what may be a safe average of the actual cost of fuel, a No. 4 pump, centrifugal, using gasoline as power, at 70 feet depth, will cost about three dollars a day. This should result in 600 gallons a minute, 36,000 gallons an hour, or 360,000 gallons a day of ten hours.

Such a stream of water is calculated to irrigate about five acres a day to a depth of a little more than 2½ inches. A better and safer estimate would probably be four acres a day to a depth of about two inches. But generally speaking, it is safer to say that at a cost of three dollars an acre land can be irrigated two or three times at six dollars an acre annually and it is certainly worth the money in dry seasons like the present. The average cost of a plant is about \$1,200. In many cases the cost will be only a fraction of that given. But even the higher figures are below the cost warranted by the saving of a crop, as the experience of individuals has shown. Over large areas of the country windmills are used as motors for irrigation pumps and careful accounts of their efficiency are available. They unquestionably serve an excellent purpose under favorable conditions up to the limits of their capacity.

How to Test Garden Seeds.

To avoid poor stands, seeds should be tested before planting. This is a very simple operation, and requires but a few minutes. There are several simple methods of testing seeds, probably most of which will answer the purpose.

One of the simplest and quickest ways is to test between blotting paper. First, count out 100 seeds of the kind to be tested, taking them just as they come and not picking out the best looking ones. Scatter the seeds between two pieces of blotting paper from four to six inches square and place in a common china plate and turn another plate bottom side up over the first. If pasteboard plates can be had they are better, especially if a large number of samples is to be tested.

Pulleys for Laying.

In all of the experiments at an eastern station the pens of pulleys without the male birds began to lay from one to two months earlier than in any of the corresponding pens in which the male birds were kept.

No attempts were made to force laying and broody fowls were allowed to sit at will, there being plenty of nest boxes in each pen. About the same number became broody in the pens having the males as in those without.

Meat for Fowls.

While meat is an excellent food for egg production, on account of its nitrogenous quality, there are a number of other foods which also are high in nitrogen, among which may be found linseed meal, malt sprout and gluten feeds. It is best to salt the morning mash, but not more than one ounce for 100 head of stock should be used. Dissolve the salt in hot water with which the mash is moistened. In this way it will be more evenly distributed.

Beautiful Walnut Tree.

The secretary of agriculture declares that the beautiful forest tree that bears the English walnut would do well in this country. It spreads like an oak and has a fine feathery foliage that fills the air with fragrance.

Usefulness of Woodpeckers.

The woodpeckers are sometimes called tree doctors, because they are constantly on the lookout for insects on the bark of the trees or worms that are at home under the bark.

Systematize Farm Work.

Pick up the odd ends on the farm, farm the waste places and systematize your work. These three things are important steps in the road to success.

DEEP FALL PLOWING IS BEST

Not Only Necessary for Sugar Beets, but Might Be Worked to Advantage With All Other Crops.

All our best farmers have long since come to a conclusion as to the necessity of deep fall plowing for sugar beets and the rule might be worked for all the other crops and we would still be ahead of the game. When beets are to go in on spud land on which the potato digger has done its awful work there is no necessity for plowing, but on other land a depth of six or eight inches should be the minimum and subsoiling from four to six inches below that will be found advantageous and this country has never yet bought enough subsoil plows nor are they used as much as they were 20 years ago. Plowing around the field should be avoided. Where land is arranged for the furrow method of irrigation and the ordinary plow used the direction should be only with the slope. Plowing at right angles to the slope will leave the dead and back furrows in the field in such position that even if smoothed over by cultivation they will prevent a uniform flow of water through the furrows. This plowing should be left in the rough so that the soil may be well aerated and be able to catch and retain snow or rain without drifting or running off. On land which is checked the direction of the plowing is not so essential except as it affects permanent ditches. Fields that have been winter irrigated must be thoroughly cultivated after watering so as to retain the moisture applied, for the spring winds levy a great tax on evaporation and we are looking for a good many hard blows this winter. The corrugator is a good thing, but alas, so few of us have corrugators and the iron foundries are not turning them out when it would be so simple to do so.

Propagating Currants.

This is the best time of the year to propagate currants from cuttings, and the ground for the purpose should be well manured and plowed nine or ten inches deep. In the bottom of these trenches the cuttings should be stuck about four inches apart, and at an angle of 45 degrees along the row, leaving above an inch of the tops protruding above the ground. In filling the trenches extra care must be taken to firm the soil at the bottom of them about the cuttings. These can be inserted in the soil much easier if they are cut diagonally as possible, giving them a sharpened end. So that no water may be collected or freeze about the cuttings, the rows should be ridged a little, and when the ground begins to freeze it is advisable to spread over a coat of coarse manure to prevent their being heaved out.

Sulphate of Iron for Vine Diseases.

According to French investigations, the use is recommended of sulphate of iron as a winter treatment for the prevention of black rot, downy mildew, anthracnose, powdery mildew, etc., of the grape. The method of application recommended is to bathe or sprinkle the vines with a ten per cent. solution of sulphate of iron and place the powdered sulphate about the vines at the rate of 400 to 800 pounds per acre, the quantity depending on the porosity of the soil.

The use of sulphate of iron solution, as mentioned above, has been made in this country for some years past for the prevention of anthracnose. The best method of making the application is with a brush, after the pruning has been done.

Mulching Celery.

It is hoped that a large number of our readers will try growing celery by mulching this year. Commercial growers who use this system almost invariably apply fresh horse manure as the mulch, says the Baltimore American. It is placed between the rows immediately after transplanting and at the rate of 40 or 50 tons per acre. This means a covering of three or four inches of manure, which will conserve moisture better than a fine soil mulch.

Lucanian Eggs.

Five hard cooked eggs, one cup cooked macaroni, one-half cup grated cheese, one and three-quarters cups white sauce, salt, paprika, onion juice, three-fourths cup buttered crumbs. Cut the eggs in eighths lengthwise, add macaroni, white sauce and seasonings. Arrange in buttered baking dish, cover with buttered crumbs, and bake until the crumbs are brown.—From Wisconsin Farmers' Institute Cook Book.

Worth of a Cow.

A Guernsey cow owned by the Iowa Agricultural college last year produced milk worth \$152.80 above the cost of her feed. What is such a cow worth?

FARM NOTES.

Cull out the litters closely.

A case of eggs holds 30 dozen.

The right kind of a hay loader is as good, or even better, than a hired man.

Sowing barley with winter wheat as a means of protecting it for winter has proven unsuccessful.

A couple of waxed ends kept handy will save many a precious moment when the harness breaks at the wrong time.

If you want to drive the birds away keep a lot of cats around the place—but remember that the cats do not eat many insects.

Do not wait until the bolts on the buggy begin to rattle off, but keep them tight all the time—it may save a bad accident.

A hive of bees will supply all the honey the family needs and besides pollinize the fruit. Nothing pays better in a small way.

If you will allow stagnant water to stand around the place sprinkle the surface with kerosene once a week. It will kill the mosquitoes.

No use to put a mortgage on the place to buy an automobile. Two hundred hens will furnish the money, though you will have to wait a year or two.

If you must use the wagon harness for field work use a broad band of plain leather for comfort and lightness.

EVER TAKE A MUSIC BATH?

They Are as Good for the Soul, Holmes Says, as Water for the Body.

One must be educated, no doubt, to understand the more complex and different kinds of musical composition. Go to the concerts where you know that the music is good, and that you ought to like it whether you do or not. Take a music bath once or twice a week for a few seasons, and you will find that it is to the soul what the water bath is to the body. I wouldn't trouble myself about the affections of people who go to this or that series of concerts chiefly because it is fashionable. Some of these people whom we think so silly will perhaps find, sooner or later, that they have a dormant faculty which is at last waking up, and that they who came because others came, and began by staring at the audience, are listening with a new found delight. Everyone of us has a harp under the bodice or waistcoat, and if it can only once be properly strung and tuned it will respond to all outside harmonies.—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

PIMPLES ON FACE 3 YEARS

"I was troubled with acne for three long years. My face was the only part affected, but it caused great disfigurement, also suffering and loss of sleep. At first there appeared red, hard pimples which later contained white matter. I suffered a great deal caused by the itching. I was in a state of perplexity when walking the streets or anywhere before the public. I used pills and other remedies but they failed completely. I thought of giving up when nothing would help, but something told me to try the Cuticura Soap and Ointment. I sent for a Cuticura Booklet which I read carefully. Then I bought some Cuticura Soap and Ointment and by following the directions I was relieved in a few days. I used Cuticura Soap for washing my face, and applied the Cuticura Ointment morning and evening. This treatment brought marvelous results so I continued with it for a few weeks and was cured completely. I can truthfully say that the Cuticura Remedies are not only all, but more than they claim to be." (Signed) G. Baume, 1015 W. 20th Place, Chicago, Ill., May 28, 1911. Although Cuticura Soap and Ointment are sold by druggists and dealers everywhere, a sample of each, with 32-page book, will be mailed free on application to "Cuticura," Dept. 28 K, Boston.

For Cramps.

A piece of old-fashioned candlewick worn around the leg in the garter place, next to the skin, will prevent, or cure, cramp in the calf of the leg or in the foot. I have proved this by personal experience; I believe this would prove effectual in preventing swimmers' cramp; those liable to cramp while in the water would be wise to try it. Cottonbatting, wrapped round the body from the armpits downward, saved the life of a man suffering agony from painters' cramp; it gave almost instant relief.—National Magazine.

When the World Was Made.

When Lottie returned from her first visit to Sunday school she was asked what she had learned. "God made the world in six days, and was arrested on the seventh day," was her version of the lesson imparted.—Lippincott's.

Chirograph.

"Ethelinda writes a very peculiar hand," said Maude. "Yes," replied Mayme, "it's just a lot of straight lines and angles. When you read it, you have to guess at the spelling, the same as she does."

Where It Belonged.

"Where are you going?"

"To fetch some water, sorr."

"What, in those disreputable trousers?"

"No, sorr, in this 'ere pail."—London Opinion.

Whenever you have a pain think of Hamlin Wizard Oil. For Headache, Toothache, Earache, Stomach ache, and many other painful ailments there is nothing better.

Some men never succeed in putting their best foot forward because they are unable to decide which one it is.

BEAUTIFUL POST CARDS FREE

Send for stamp for five samples of my very choicest Gold Embossed Birthday, Flower and Motto Post Cards; beautiful colors and loveliest designs. Art Post Card Club, 21 Jackson St., Topeka, Kansas.

Giving other people the best of it is a good investment. And besides it may not cost you anything.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, &c. a bottle.

A woman thinks a man is sensible if he tells her that she is handsome.

If you wish beautiful, clear, white clothes, use Red Cross Bag Blue. At all good grocers.

A man can't kick if his monument is a put-up job.

No Man is Stronger Than His Stomach

A strong man is strong all over. No man can be strong who is suffering from weak stomach with its consequent indigestion, or from some other disease of the stomach and its associated organs, which impairs digestion and nutrition. For when the stomach is weak or diseased there is a loss of the nutrition contained in food, which is the source of all physical strength. When a man "doesn't feel just right," when he doesn't sleep well, has an uncomfortable feeling in the stomach after eating, is languid, nervous, irritable and despondent, he is losing the nutrition needed to make strength.

Such a man should use Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It cures diseases of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition. It enriches the blood, invigorates the liver, strengthens the kidneys, nourishes the nerves, and so GIVES HEALTH AND STRENGTH TO THE WHOLE BODY.

You can't afford to accept a secret nostrum as a substitute for this non-alcoholic medicine of known composition, not even though the urgent dealer may thereby make a little bigger profit. Ingredients printed on wrapper.

Color more goods brighter and faster colors than any other dye. One 10c package colors all fibers. They dye in cold water better than any other dye. You can dye any garment without ripping apart. Write for free booklet—How to Dye, Bleach and Mix Colors. MONROE DRUG COMPANY, Quincy, Ill.

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